

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03
ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 TRSE-00
SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 NSC-05 /058 W
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INFO USLOSACLANT NORFOLK VA
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 NATO 04049

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, NATO
SUBJECT: HILEX-8: HIGH LEVEL EXERCISE PLANNING
GROUP (HLEPG)

REF: STATE 119102 DTG 232355Z MAY 77, NOTAL
SUMMARY: THE FIRST MEETING OF THE HLEPG WAS HELD ON MAY 24,
1977. ALL PARTICIPATING NATIONS ATTENDED WITH MOST REPRESENTED BY OFFICIALS FROM CAPITALS. FOLLOWING COMMENTS ARE KEYED TO AGENDA ITEMS. NO GUIDANCE IS REQUIRED AT THIS TIME. END SUMMARY.

1. AGENDA ITEM I - CONDUCT OF HILEX-8. ALL AGREED THAT THE BASIC GUIDANCE FOR HILEX-8 (DPC/D(76)24 AND AC/237-WP/119) WAS CORRECT AND PROVIDED AMPLE DIRECTION FOR THE GROUP.

2. AGENDA ITEM II - DRAFT PRE-EXERCISE SETTING. (DOCUMENT AC/287(H-8)-WP/1 PLUS ADDENDUM). US REP (MCKENNEY) MADE SUCCESSFUL INTERVENTIONS USING GUIDANCE CONTAINED REFTEL. BASIC DISCUSSION REVOLVED AROUND THE NEED TO DELETE REFERENCE TO "SENSITIVE AREAS", E.G. YUGOSLAVIA, AS REQUESTED BY THE CANADIANS AND SUPPORTED BY SEVERAL NATIONS, AND THE

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NEED TO STRENGTHEN THE POLITICAL PLAY AND FOCUS SOVIET AIMS AND GOALS. THE CHAIRMAN (MORAN) AGREED THAT WORK SHOULD BE DONE ALONG THOSE LINES. SEVERAL NATIONS, NOTABLY THE FRG, WANTED INCREASED MARITIME ACTIVITY. THIS WAS AGREED. DELEGATIONS HIGHLIGHTED NUMEROUS INCONSISTENCIES/ CONFLICTING STATEMENTS WHICH WILL BE CORRECTED.

3. ALL AGREED THAT THE ECONOMIC DIRECTORATE SHOULD WORK TO IMPROVE THEIR INPUT AND DEVELOP AN ECONOMIC INCIDENT LIST. INDIVIDUAL NATIONS WILL ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR DEVELOPING SPECIFIC PARTS OF THE POLITICAL INCIDENT LIST. THE TASKING ORDER WILL BE SENT OUT IN THE NEAR FUTURE. SACLAN/CINCHAN WILL PREPARE A MARITIME INCIDENT LIST.

4. AGENDA ITEM III - DRAFT MILITARY INCIDENT LIST (DOCUMENT AC/287(H-8)-WP/2). MOST AGREED THAT THE PRESENT LIST REPRESENTED A VERY GOOD START BUT REQUIRED SOME STRENGTHENING TO SUPPORT THE REVISED POLITICAL SCENARIO. THE MILITARY AUTHORITIES AGREED.

5. AGENDA ITEM IV - PLAY OF RESOURCES PROBLEMS (DOCUMENT AC/287-WP/3). AT A FRINGE MEETING OF CEP EXPERTS, INDIVIDUAL NATIONS AGREED TO PREPARE CEP INPUTS FOR THE EXERCISE AS FOLLOWS: FRG - REFUGEE PROBLEM; BELGIUM - GUEST WORKERS; UK (IN CONJUNCTION WITH US/CANADA) - GRAIN ISSUES; NMAS - MILITARY RESUPPLY; FRG - PHARMACEUTICALS; TURKEY (WITH ITALY) - SOUTHERN REGION CEP PROBLEMS. SIGNIFICANT DISCUSSION THEN ENSUED OVER PROBLEM OR REINFORCEMENT. CEP DIRECTORATE REP (FARRANT) USED THE OCCASION TO POINT OUT THE GREAT NUMBER OF PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH REINFORCEMENT PLANNING AND PROCEDURAL TESTING (AND LACK OF CEP STAFF SUPPORT). HE STATED THAT IT WOULD BE TECHNICALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO TEST REINFORCEMENT PROCEDURES IN THE NEAR TERM. IT WAS THEN POINTED OUT THAT HILEX-8 WAS NOT A PROCEDURAL EXERCISE AND THAT AT MOST THE DPC SHOULD BE ASKED ONLY TO APPROVE REQUESTS OF MNC'S FOR CONFIDENTIAL

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EXECUTION OF REINFORCEMENT PLANS. IT WAS AGREED THAT THIS WAS THE PROPER APPROACH NOTWITHSTANDING CEP DIRECTORATE'S PROBLEMS.

6. AGENDA ITEM V - FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME. ITEM CONSISTED OF A REVIEW OF ALREADY HIGHLIGHTED WORK TO BE DONE.

7. AGENDA ITEM VI - DATE OF NEXT MEETING. DUE TO LARGE WORKLOAD THE CHAIRMAN SUGGESTED, AND ALL AGREED, TO HOLD THE NEXT MEETING DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF SEPTEMBER (PROBABLY SEPTEMBER 1 AND 2) WITH FOLLOW-ON MEETINGS AT EIGHT-TO-NINE-WEEK INTERVALS.

8. AGENDA ITEM VII - ANY OTHER BUSINESS - NONE.

9. OTHER COMMENTS: DURING COURSE OF MEETING, WE SUGGESTED (IAW STATE 111628) THAT IT MIGHT BE USEFUL TO USE AN ORANGE RESPONSE CELL TO PROVIDE ANSWERS TO DPC INITIATIVES/ACTIONS. ALL SUPPORTED THIS PROPOSAL, AND THE CHAIR-

MAN AGREED TO INVESTIGATE THE POSSIBILITIES.

10. THROUGHOUT THE COURSE OF THE MEETING, A DECIDED LACK OF INTEREST IN THE PROCEEDINGS WAS EVIDENT, EVEN THOUGH NATIONAL EXPERTS WERE PRESENT. AT A FOLLOW-ON SOCIAL GATHERING, MISSION OFFICER LEARNED THAT SEVERAL DELEGATIONS (NOTABLY THE DUTCH, CANADIAN AND NORWEGIAN) HAD HELD MEETINGS TO DETERMINE IF THEY WOULD EVEN PARTICIPATE IN THE HLEPG IN LIGHT OF THE "UNCERTAINTY" OF HILEX-8. WE

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WILL PROVIDE MORE DETAIL AND OUR COMMENT VIA SEPTTEL.
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